

procedures can often be tragic, and they are always preventable. To prevent more tragedies on the job, we've got to make sure workers can join unions without employer interference or intimidation, we must help protect whistleblowers who call attention to dangerous working conditions, and above all we've got to fight back against attempts in Congress to weaken OSHA laws.

I do not understand the yearly assault on worker safety in Congress. Again this year, the Safety Advancement for Employees Act, or SAFE Act has been introduced. This legislation takes away a worker's right to an on-site inspection to investigate a hazard, or permitting OSHA to issue warnings instead of citations. This bill isn't OSHA re-form, it's OSHA de-form. This bill would more appropriately be named the "UNSAFE" act.

Mr. President, I will work with my colleagues to fight back any attempt to weaken the protection of Wisconsin's workers. It's time to move the workplace forward to the 21st Century, not back to the dark ages.

I am proud to stand with this country's workers in the fight for the dignity, respect and safe workplace they deserve. I urge my colleagues to join me in this important and worthy battle.

I yield back the remainder of my time.●

#### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I would like to bring to your attention the National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive Day. On Saturday, May 8, letter carriers from around the country will collect nonperishable food items placed near their customers' mail boxes. The food will then be given to local food pantries for distribution to those in need. The National Association of Letter Carriers in Alabama collected more than 500,000 items last year alone, and I would like to encourage my colleagues to support the letter carriers' food drives in their States, districts, and hometowns in order to make this worthy event a success.●

#### THE VILLA TRAGARA

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I was delighted to see that the Villa Tragara in Waterbury Center, Vermont has been awarded the "Emblem of Excellence" in Italian Cuisine.

I am not the least bit surprised. My wife and I enjoy going to this restaurant more than any other. The owners, Tony and Patricia DiRuocco are special friends of ours and have brought the highest of culinary excellence to our state of Vermont. I count among my most enjoyable experiences meals in their superb restaurant and I wanted the rest of the country to have notice of this great honor.

I ask that the article from our local newspaper, The Times Argus, be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[The Times Argus, April 8, 1999]

VILLA TRAGARA HONORED BY ITALIAN ACADEMY, GOVERNMENT

WATERBURY CENTER—The Villa Tragara Ristorante of Waterbury Center has been awarded "Insegna Del Ristorante Italiano" meaning "The Emblem of Excellence" in Italian Cuisine.

The award has been presented by the prestigious Italian Academy of Cuisine, located in Rome.

Villa Tragara chef/owner Antonino DiRuocco, born in Capri, Italy, and his partner and wife, Patricia, are scheduled to fly to Rome for festivities that include presentation of the award April 10-12.

Festivities include a trip to the Vatican, the Italian Senate and the "Quirinale," home of the Italian president.

DiRuocco will be presented his award April 12 by Signor Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, Italy's president.

Restaurants throughout the world are judged on authenticity of the culinary art, creativity and presentation. A separate award is presented for wines and spirits.

Villa Tragara will be one of 80 restaurants worldwide to receive the award.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MS. RUBY B. MCMILLEN

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Ruby B. McMillen, a native of Virginia's Albemarle County, who is retiring from the Defense Logistics Agency, Fort Belvoir, Virginia, this month after a distinguished civilian career spanning more than thirty-six years. Ms. McMillen, who currently directs the Agency's business management office, has devoted her professional life to supporting the logistics needs of military men and women assigned around the world in defense of our freedom. Her accomplishments are many and her reputation for innovative, visionary leadership is unparalleled. Her contributions to the National Defense will be missed, so as she transitions to new opportunities, I want to say thanks to her on behalf of a grateful nation.

Ms. McMillen's career is noteworthy for many reasons, but her remarkable rise through the civil service ranks speaks to the real value of the work she has done for our warfighters over the years. Starting as a GS-3 clerk in Richmond's Defense General Supply Center, she soon transitioned into professional and leadership positions, but never lost her appreciation of the unique challenges faced by junior-level employees. With each assignment came additional responsibilities and a reputation for cutting through business-as-usual obstacles. Over the years her abilities developed, her contributions grew, and she rose to the top of her career field. For all the challenges she successfully met, Ms. McMillen's enduring contribution will be all those employees to whom she served as an active mentor. The next generation of DLA's professional logisticians has

countless members who would not be making tremendous contributions to the Agency if not for her help, encouragement, and motivation along the way.

Mr. President, I am proud and honored to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Ruby McMillen on her retirement from the Federal Civil Service.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN GATHERING OF JEWISH HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

● Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I rise to have printed in the RECORD, the remarks made by Benjamin Meed, President of the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization, on the 56th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Mr. Meed made these remarks to the Congregation Emanu-El in New York City. The material follows:

##### REMARKS OF BENJAMIN MEED

Governor Pataki, Senator Schumer, Mayor Giuliani, Comptroller Hevesi, Members of the U.S. Congress, Ambassador Sisso of Israel and Members of the Israeli Consulate, State and City Officials, Members of the New York Legislature, Boro President, Distinguished Guests, fellow survivors, and dear friends.

Today, Jews gather to pay tribute to the memory of our Six Million brothers and sisters murdered only because they were Jewish; We gather to honor the fighters of the Warsaw Ghetto; to grieve; and to continue asking the questions: Why did it happen? How could the civilized world allow it to happen? Why were we so abandoned? Six million times, why?

This year's national Days of Remembrance theme is dedicated to the voyage of the SS *St. Louis*. It is a story of refuge denied; it is a tale of international abandonment and betrayal. Why were they refused entry into this country? How can we ever understand why this was allowed to happen? Today, it is inconceivable to us just how that ship in those days was turned away.

Today 54 years ago the American soldiers came across Nazi Germany slave labor camps and liberated Buchenwald and saved many of us who are here present today. Our gratitude will remain with us forever. We will always remain grateful to these soldiers for their kindness and generosity, and we will always remember those young soldiers who sacrificed their lives to bring us liberty.

Today, wherever Jews live—from Antwerp to Melbourne, from Jerusalem to Buenos Aires, from New York to Budapest—we come together to remember to say Kadish collectively.

Remembering the Holocaust is now a part of the Jewish calendar. We are together in our dedication to Memory and our aspiration for peace and brotherhood. Yom Hashoah, the Days of Remembrance, time to collectively bear witness as a community.

And what lessons did we derive from these horrible experiences? The most important lesson is obvious—it can happen again the impossible is possible again. Ethnic cleansing, genocide, is happening as I speak. It can happen to any one or any group of people. The slaughter in Kosovo and in other places must be brought to an end.

Should there be another Holocaust, it may be on a cosmic scale. How can we prevent it? All of us must remain vigilant—always aware, always on guard against those who are determined to destroy innocent human life for no other reason than birthright.

It is vital that we remember, it is our commitment to those who perished, and to each other; a commitment taken up by your children and, hopefully, by the generation to come. What we remember is gruesome and painful. But remember we must. Over the years, we have tried to make certain that what happened to us was communicated and continues to be told, and retold, until it becomes an inseparable part of the world's conscience.

And yet, some fifty years after the Holocaust, we continue to be repulsed by revelations about the enormity of the crimes against our people. And we are shocked to learn of the behavior of those who could have helped us, or at least, not hurt us, but who, instead, actually helped those whose goal was to wipe us out. Sadly, many of those who claimed they were neutral were actually involved with the German Nazis. They were anything but not neutral.

The world has now learned that the Holocaust was not only the greatest murder of humanity, the greatest crime against humanity, but also the greatest robbery in the history of mankind. Driven from our homes, stripped of family heirlooms—indeed of all our possessions—the German Nazis and their collaborators took anything that was or could be of value for recycling. They stole from the living and even defiled the Jewish dead, tearing out gold fillings and cutting off fingers to recover wedding bands from our loved ones who they had murdered.

But the German Nazis did not—could not—do it alone. The same people who now offer reasonable sounding justifications for their conduct during the Holocaust were, in those darkest of times, more than eager to profit from the German war against the Jews.

None of the so-called "neutral" nations has fully assumed responsibility for its conduct during the Holocaust. The bankers, brokers, and business people who helped Nazi Germany now offer some money to survivors, but they say little about their collaboration. They utter not a word about how they sent fleeing Jews back to the German Nazis' machinery of destruction, nor about how they supported the Nazis in other ways—no admission of guilt; no regret; no expression of moral responsibility.

We must guard against dangerous, unintended consequences arising from all that is going on now. Hopefully, family properties and other valuables will be returned to their rightful owners. But the blinding glitter of gold—the unrealistic expectations created by all the international publicity—has diverted attention from the evil which was the Holocaust.

For five decades, we survivors vowed that what happened to our loved ones would be remembered and that our experiences would serve as a warning to future generations. We must continue to make sure that the images of gold bars wrapped in yellow Stars of David do not overshadow the impressions of a mother protecting her daughter with her coat, upon which a Star of David is sewn, or of a young boy desperately clutching his father's hand at Auschwitz/Birkenau before entering the gas chambers.

The search for lost and stolen Jewish-owned assets has generated enormous publicity and excitement, but it also has created serious concerns. Gold, bank accounts, insurance policies and other assets have become the focal point of the Holocaust. That somehow minimizes Germany's murderous role.

Great care must be taken to find a balance. The various investigations must continue to uncover the hidden or little publicized truths about the so-called neutral countries that collaborated, and to recover what rightfully belongs to the victims, survivors and their families.

The focus should never be shifted from the moral and financial responsibility of Germany for the slaughter of our people—acts for which there is no statute of limitations, acts for which Germany remains eternally responsible. Our books should not and cannot be closed.

Let us Remember.●

#### DEATH OF FORMER SENATOR ROMAN L. HRUSKA

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 88, submitted earlier by Senators HAGEL and KERREY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 88) relative to the death of the Honorable Roman L. Hruska, formerly a Senator from the State of Nebraska.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 88) was agreed to, as follows:

#### S. RES. 88

*Resolved*, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Roman L. Hruska, formerly a Senator from the State of Nebraska.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

#### DESIGNATING THE HENRY CLAY DESK

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 89, submitted earlier by Senator MCCONNELL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 89) designating the Henry Clay Desk in the Senate Chamber for assignment to the senior Senator from Kentucky.

There being no objection, the Senator proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, it is my distinct honor to support this resolution submitted today by Senator MCCONNELL assigning the Henry Clay Desk in the Senate Chamber to the senior Senator from Kentucky. This resolution will ensure that the Henry Clay Desk will forever stay within the family of Kentucky Senators.

The Senate has a proud tradition of passing this type of resolution. During the 94th Congress, for example, the

Senate adopted a resolution assigning the Daniel Webster Desk to the senior Senator from New Hampshire. And, during the 104th Congress, the Senate agreed to a resolution ensuring that the Jefferson Davis Desk would forever reside with the senior Senator from Mississippi.

Let me take a brief moment to reflect on the life and legacy of Henry Clay. Henry Clay began his political career in the Kentucky House of Representatives in 1803, at age 27, and remained in public service until his death in 1852. During Clay's long and distinguished career, he served his state and his nation in a wide range of capacities including speaker of the Kentucky House of Representatives, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and, of course, as a U.S. Senator for fifteen years. Clay also served President John Quincy Adams as Secretary of State for four years, and received his party's nomination for President in 1824, 1832, and 1844.

Henry Clay's ability to facilitate compromise was quickly recognized in Washington, and he became well-known as a highly-skilled negotiator. This skill, coupled with his knack for convincing and persuasive speech, made Clay the ideal appointment in 1814 to help negotiate the Treaty of Ghent that concluded the war with Great Britain. And, during Clay's quest to save the Union in 1820, he earned his reputation as "The Great Compromiser" by helping broker the Missouri Compromise. His leadership, however, did not end there. He also went on to play a significant role in crafting the Compromise of 1850.

Henry Clay's lifetime of public service is indeed worthy of recognition. He will always be a role model for public servants because of his dedication to the people of Kentucky and to our great Nation, and lives on his history as one of the greatest Senators of all time. In fact, Henry Clay's portrait is displayed just off the Senate floor to honor his designation in 1957, as one of history's "Five Outstanding Senators." Clay certainly deserves today's honor of committing his former desk to Senator MCCONNELL and to the senior Senators from Kentucky who will follow.

Mr. President, let me say today that I think Senator MCCONNELL is following in the footsteps of Henry Clay. He has done a tremendous job representing the good people of Kentucky for the past 15 years. And, on a personal level, I would like to say that I have developed a genuine appreciation for Senator MCCONNELL's courage, his political insight, and his keen and candid advice on a wide range of subjects. I value him as a friend, a confidant, and an advisor, and look forward to many more years of service with him here in this chamber.

Mr. President, I am proud today to support this resolution submitted by Senator MCCONNELL. It is his strong desire to maintain the heirloom of the